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10/531,276	04/13/2005	Yoshiyuki Kohno	35355/53	5069

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EXAMINER	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Response to Arguments

The scope of the claims is changed by the amendments; new issues are raised that would require further consideration and/or search.

Applicant's arguments filed February 21, 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive, because:

A) Applicant's argument that Eckberg does not cure the deficiency of Pines in regard to teaching of a polymer with an epoxy containing siloxane at both ends is not persuasive. Applicant has not pointed to any facts that this is the case, and the statement is a mere allegation a siloxane at both ends of an epoxy is not taught. However, in the Final Rejection, it is clearly pointed out that Eckberg teaches a polyoxyalkylene polymer whereby there are epoxy containing siloxane groups at both ends (col. 5 lines 10-50).

B) In response to applicant's arguments against the references individually, namely that Eckberg does not teach a polysiloxane copolymer with a skeleton portion comprising a saturated hydrocarbon polymer selected from the group consisting of polyisobutylene, hydrogenated polyisoprene, hydrogenated polybutadiene, and hydrogenated copolymers thereof, one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986). In this case, the combination relies on Pines, Eckberg and Umpleby.

C) Applicant's argument that Pines and Eckberg teach away from including a hydrophobic moiety is not persuasive. The cited passage of Pines (col. 1 lines 31-53) discloses that a hydrophobic softening agent is undesirable, but it does not discuss hydrophobic moieties on an otherwise hydrophilic softening agent. This is evidenced in Pines by the fact that the organosilicone comprises hydrophobic moieties, such as alkyl groups, phenyl, naphthyl, etc. (col. 2 lines 15-44). The motivation given by the Examiner in the Final Rejection refers to a reason to add a hydrophobic *moiety* to a hydrophilic *copolymer*. Meanwhile, Eckberg discloses two general approaches to increase the miscibility of onium photo-initiators. The first involves making the composition more hydrophobic, while the second is more hydrophilic (col. 3 line 64-col. 4 line 22). This implies that the composition of Eckberg would not suffer under the addition of a hydrophobic moiety, and therefore, Eckberg does not teach away.

Correspondence

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MEGAN ARNBERG whose telephone number is (571)270-3292. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 7:30-5:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Eashoo can be reached on (571) 272-1197. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Angela Scott/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1796
11-Mar-08

/M. A./
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